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It looks as if we might accept the latter, if the Soviets would take the former. The Prime Minister and the President are exchanging private messages on the subject.

In the aftermath of George Ball's visit, there is much speculation in the papers over British Common Market negotiations. In addition to what Heath told Ball yesterday regarding the probable schedule of events, it should be added that if agreement is reached with the Six on basic elements of the package in July or August, followed by a meeting of the Commonwealth Prime Ministers in September, consideration will then be given to the whole affair by the Conference in October. This would mean the question would be debated in the House of Commons in November or December.

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Montague Browne called me this morning, to say that Sir Winston Churchill was leaving tomorrow for a Mediterranean cruise. He will not return until about the first of May. During his absence, he will reflect upon the President's letter to him, in which the President expressed his desire to name a Polaris Submarine after him. This would be the first instance in American Naval history when a vessel has been named for a living person. Brownesaid Sir Winston was deeply touched by the offer, and would reply later on, after giving it full consideration.

I also mentioned to Browne as I had done recently in a letter to Randolph Churchill, Morris Ernst's desire to raise a fund by small subscriptions in the United States to erect a Churchill statue in Grosvenor Square. This offer was rejected by Sir Winston on a previous occasion, on the grounds he wanted no memorials of him established during his lifetime.

I received this morning a copy of Africana, sent me by Ken Ulyate, who is now living at West Kilimanjaro, in Tanganyika. When Nelson Slater and I went on a hunting trip in East Africa in 1939, Ken was my guide, although he was only about 19 years old. His father was a famous white hunter, and the son a superb shot.

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to the other. One notable exception is the case of trade policy, where we have never departed from the principles of the Act of 1934. Under that legislation, the average level of our dutiable imports has been brought down from 25% to 11%. Taking into account the goods which come in duty-free, and the effects of inflation on the protective incidence of specific duties, the ratio of duties to imports has dropped from 19% before the initiation of the trade agreements program, to 5% today.

In his message to the Congress requesting a "new and modern instrument" of trade negotiation, the President outlined the developments which have made our existing program out-of-date. Important among these is the growth of the Common Market. This new force in the world economy calls for broader and more flexible negotiating authority on our part.

To meet this situation, the President has asked for two kinds of authority. First, a general authority to reduce existing tariffs by 50% in reciprocal negotiations. Secondly, a special authority to reduce or eliminate all tariffs on those groups of products where the US and EEC together account for 80% or more of world trade.

While Presidents have been given power in the past to negotiate mutual tariff reductions up to 50%, the current request is breaking new ground on two counts. If the bill is passed by the Congress, it will, for the first time, allow the President to eliminate some duties entirely. Secondly, the President would be authorized to reduce tariffs on an across-the-board basis instead of by the traditional item-by-item negotiating technique.

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